



3727

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: OMURA, Yoshiharu

SERIAL NO.: 10/038,278

ART UNIT: 3727

FILED: January 4, 2002

EXAMINER: SMALLEY, J.N.

TITLE: CAN HAVING A COVER WITH A STAY-ON TAB

Amdt
7/10
3/20/03
B. Ross

AMENDMENT "A"

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box Non-Fee Amendment

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action of December 23, 2002, a response being due by March 23, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1 - 6 and substitute Claims 7 - 10 therefor as follows:

7. A covering apparatus for a can comprising:

B1
a can cover having an upper surface, said can cover having wrinkles formed therein so as to prevent upward swelling of said can cover by an expansion of contents from the can, said can cover having an outer rim extending upwardly from said upper surface by a first distance; and

a stay-on tab attached to said upper surface by a support protruding upwardly from said can cover, said can cover having a score means formed under one end of said stay-on tab, said score means for rupturing upon compressive content by said one end of said stay-on tab, said one